REMARKS

The claims in this case were restricted into two Groups. Applicants have elected Group I, Claims 1-10 and 13-19.

Moreover, Applicants have provisionally elected, for search and examination purposes only, the specie of polymer in claim 4, particularly as represented by the commercial product Genapol LA-070 (a C12-C14 alcohol oxyethylenated with 7 mol of ethylene oxide (see, page 9, line 24-26 of the present application). However, the election of species requirement is traversed.

The reason underlying the designation by the Office of all species being patentably distinct is not explained in sufficient detail or by example, and as such represents only a conclusion, particularly in view of the fact that the identified species of polymers are related by operation and/or effect. Accordingly, division of each of these species is unsupported and improper. See, MPEP §§ 802.01 and 806.04 (b).

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that even assuming the species of polymer are materially different from each other, the search for all of these types of compounds would occur in substantially the same classes/subclasses. Thus, no burden would be placed on the Office in searching and/or examining all claims together.

-2-

Application No. 10/813,013 Response to Requirement of Restriction dated August 6, 2007

For all of the above reasons, the Election of Species Requirement is traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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